

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, before "FIELD OF INVENTION", please insert the following paragraph:

CROSS REFERENCE

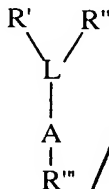
This is a divisional under 35 USC §120 of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/479,365 filed January 7, 2000, ^{now US Pat No 6,126,817} which is a continuation of PCT International Application Serial No. PCT/IB98/01103, filed July 20, 1998; which claims priority to Provisional Application Serial No. 60/053,321, filed July 21, 1997.

Page 3, line 14, please delete "US 5,510,306"; lines 14-15, please delete "4,031,316; 4,301,317; 4,855,527; 4,870,038; 5,026,933".

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1 to 9, without prejudice and insert the following new Claims:

10. An alkylaryl composition suitable as a source for making alkylarylsulfonate surfactants, wherein said composition comprises at least two isomers of an alkylaryl of the formula:



wherein:

L is an acyclic aliphatic hydrocarbyl of from 6 to 18 carbon atoms in total;

R' is selected from H and C₁ to C₃ alkyl;

R'' is selected from H and C₁ to C₃ alkyl;

both R' and R'' are nonterminally attached to L and at least one of R' and R'' is C₁ to C₃ alkyl;